eSlate™ Polling Place

Command Center for Polling Place Operations

Hart InterCivic's eSlate System provides polling place officials an unprecedented level of management and control, while still offering the industry's easiest system to set-up, operate, and close.

At the polling place, the unique features of the eSlate System come together to provide polling place officials a powerful, but simple, management tool. Through the eSlate's Judge's Booth Controller™ (JBC), election officials have access to a centralized, secure, and efficient command center for polling place operations.

Standalone voting systems that operate without the eSlate's control features have multiple points of failure–some affecting individual machines and some affecting the ability to operate the polling place–and no immediate, central way to alert polling place officials that a malfunction has occurred.

Centralized Polling Place Management

The eSlate System's JBC manages up to 12 eSlate voting devices in the polling place. This allows central management of polling place operations, providing an efficient tool for the election judge. The JBC's intuitive screen layout easily guides the election judge through the device's menu-driven processes. Through the JBC, polls are quickly and easily opened and closed. Polling place officials monitor the status of each voting booth through an LED light on the JBC, making it easy to identify open booths, active booths, or respond to a voter's silent signal for assistance, all without leaving the election judge's desk! Polling place officials also use the JBC to assign access codes, monitor the status of access codes, handle provisional ballots and print voter receipts. In the unlikely event of a failure of a voting device, the polling place officials will be notified by the JBC. On screen displays also continuously report on the status of battery backup and the number of votes cast.

Security Never Compromised

Voters are not given any expensive smart cards, "electronic keys," or other programmable devices. Such devices may malfunction, may not be returned after the voter has cast a ballot, or may be used as a means of tampering with the machine. The eSlate has no external openings that could create a breach in the system's security that might provide access for creative hackers or others seeking to tamper, subvert, or vandalize the system or the election. In fact, a malicious user could not tamper with the voting machine through a card-access point such that future voters on that machine would have their votes either corrupted or invalidated. The eSlate System's automatic system diagnostics, audit trails, and summary reports further ensure data completeness and integrity.

Efficient and secure, the eSlate solution offers a command center at the polling place.

You vote. It counts.™

HART intercivic™

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eSlate Polling Place

Trusted Transactions **Exceptional Expertise** **Absolutely Accessible**

Simple Setup

eSlates are connected to the JBC by a standard cable that carries both power and data. Therefore, only one electrical outlet is required, simplifying the process of selecting polling places. The architecture of the eSlate System allows unmatched simplicity in opening and closing of polls. For example, all eSlates attached to the JBC are instantaneously and simultaneously activated in diagnostic mode when power is applied to the JBC, a power-on self-test is run by the internal software, and a check is performed for the presence of the Mobile Ballot Box™ or MBB–all without the need for intervention by the polling place official. Polling place officials avoid the complexity and potential confusion created by multiple activation devices, individual machine programming, harvesting votes from standalone machines at the end of voting, and individually deactivating each machine.

Failsafe, Redundant Storage of Votes

When votes are cast, vote records are automatically and immediately stored in three physically separate devices: on the eSlate, on the JBC and on the MBB which is inserted in the JBC. If any one were to fail, data can easily be retrieved from the other functional sources. At the end of an election, cast vote record totals may be sent via modem to the central counting station (or substations), further minimizing access to the results by multiple individuals. There is no need to harvest votes from individual eSlate units at the end of an election in order to tabulate results, eliminating time-consuming and unnecessary work for polling place officials.

Field Replaceable

All units are easily field-replaceable. In the unlikely event that an eSlate voting device fails, all other devices in the system continue to operate. A new device can be installed quickly with no fear of data loss given the high reliability of the networked solution.

Voter Activated

Voters are issued a randomly generated, four-number access code by the JBC, which can be easily entered into the eSlate voting device with no assistance required from poll workers. There is no requirement for additional poll workers to initialize the voting unit for each and every individual voter, resulting in significant cost savings.

The eSlate's Judge's Booth Controller (JBC) manages up to 12 eSlate voting devices, allowing for central management of polling place operations.

Compare this to stand-alone voting machines, which may require that a poll worker activate the machine before each voter, or that a voter insert a smart card or other electronic device into an access port.

Nothing of Value to Disappear

The Access Code is issued on a piece of printer tape that can be disposed of after voting. The election judge does not need to be on the lookout for voters forgetting to return smart cards or other activation devices.

Solutions with service.™